

Message Text

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47

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ARA-06

EA-06 NEA-09 ACDA-05 /093 W
----- 119187

O R 131210Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4637

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0545

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, SF, WA

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL ON NAMIBIA

REF: (A) STATE 110179; (B) CAPE TOWN 535; (C) USUN 1532

1. I RAISED WITH FONMIN MULLER THIS MORNING QUESTION OF NAMIBIA
ALONG LINES OF PARA 2 OF REF (B). HE SAID PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH
WOULD BE "IMPORTANT" BUT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO EXPECT ANYTHING
"SPECTACULAR." HE IS WORKING ON RESPONSE TO TRIPARTITE DEMARCHE
WHICH HE HOPES TO DELIVER PRIOR TO VORSTER'S MAY 20 ADDRESS. HE
DID NOT REVEAL CONTENT OF PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH OR REPLY TO
DEMARCHE, BUT WENT TO SOME LENGTH TO EXPLAIN SAG APPROACH TO
ORGANIZING SWA MULTIRACIAL CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IN
WHICH HEREROS AND DEMARAS WILL
PARTICIPATE WITH OVAMBOS AND OTHERS AS SOON AS THE FORMER TWO
GROUPS SELECT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES. IN RESPONSE MY QUESTION, MULLER
STATED SUCH A CONFERENCE COULD NOT BE HELD BEFORE END OF THIS YEAR.

2. IN VIEW OF MULLER'S COMMENTS, AND FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS,
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I SUGGEST THAT USG INTERESTS WOULD BEST BE SERVED BY TACTIC

CONTAINED IN OPTION B, REFTEL (C).

3. IN EMBASSY'S VIEW, TRIPARTITE DEMARCHE HAS THREE OBJECTIVES:

(A) TO ENCOURAGE SAG TO MOVE MEANINGFULLY IN DIRECTION OF COMPLIANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIA; (B) TO AVOID SITUATION ARISING IN UNSC WHERE WE MIGHT HAVE TO EXERCISE VETO TO BLOCK MOVE TO EXPEL SOUTH AFRICA OR TO FORESTALL APPLICATION OF CHAPTER SEVEN'S SANCTIONS; (C) TO DEMONSTRATE TO BLACK AFRICA AND US DOMESTIC OPINION THAT WE ARE USING OUR INFLUENCE IN SUPPORT OF NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE.

4. BELIEVE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF FIRST OBJECTIVE WOULD BE HINDERED BY PUBLIC RELEASE OF NOTE OR DOCUMENTARY RECORD OF WHAT THE THREE POWERS HAD DONE (OPTION A) PRIOR TO UNSC MEETING AND WITHOUT FIRST INFORMING SAG OF HOW WE PLAN TO HANDLE RELEASE. THIS, IN OUR VIEW, COULD ELICIT REFRACTORY RESPONSE FROM SOUTH AFRICANS AND MAKE THEM ALL THE LESS AMENABLE TO FURTHER EFFORTS ON OUR PART TO GET THEM MOVING TOWARD SOLUTION OF NAMIBIAN PROBLEM. WE BELIEVE IMPLEMENTATION OF OPTION B, WITH PRIOR EXPLANATION TO SAG INCLUDING PROBABILITY OF RELEASING TEXT DURING UNSC DISCUSSIONS, WOULD BEST SERVE ALL THREE OBJECTIVES. SOUTH AFRICANS SHOULD ACCEPT FACT THAT WE HAVE TO DISCUSS FULLY WITH UNSC MEMBERS THE APPROACH WE HAVE BEEN MAKING PRIOR TO MAY 30. WHILE IT MOST LIKELY THAT SUBSTANCE OF OUR DEMARCHE TO SAG WILL BE LEAKED, WE BELIEVE SAG WOULD BE LESS ANNOYED IF WE WERE TO SURFACE TEXT AS PART OF UNSC DEBATE THAN IF WE WERE TO OVERTLY GO PUBLIC ON THIS ISSUE PRIOR TO UNSC DELIBERATIONS. THUS, REVELATION THROUGH UNSC OF TRIPARTITE DEMARCHE WOULD SHOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN USING OUR INFLUENCE IN SUPPORT OF NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE, YET AT SAME TIME BE LESS LIKELY TO RAISE HACKLES OF SAG MORE THAN WOULD BE IN OUR INTERESTS.

5. RECOMMEND THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF OPTION B BE WITHHELD UNTIL AFTER VORSTER SPEECH ON MAY 20 IN ORDER TO (A) AVOID LEAKS PRIOR THAT EVENT, AND (B) ADAPT PRESENTATION TO WHAT VORSTER MAY OR MAY NOT SAY.

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